

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 INR-07 CIAE-00

SSO-00 MED-02 /048 W

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P 231444Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4576

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 6118

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PINT PFOR ET (HAILE SELASSIE, EMPEROR)

SUBJECT: PMAC REVEALS EMPEROR'S ILLNESS

REF: ADDIS 5879 (EXDIS)

1. RADIO ETHIOPIA IN AMHARIC AT 1400 HOURS LOCAL MAY 23 CARRIED
ANNOUNCEMENT ON SUBJECT. FREE TRANSLATION PROVIDED BY FSL
FOLLOWS:

A) DR. ASRAT WOLDEYES, PRIVATE PHYSICIAN OF THE FORMER "KING",
TOLD ENA TODAY THAT PMAC HAS PERMITTED THE FORMER KING TO OBTAIN
MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR HIS PRESENT ILLNESS, WHICH IS DUE TO OLD
AGE. THE DOCTOR TOLD THE AGENCY THAT HE HAS BEEN ATTENDING THE
FORMER KING SINCE THE LATTER'S DETENTION IN THE FOURTH DIVISION.
HOWEVER, THE KING HAS BEEN SUFFERING FROM AN OBSTRUCTED URINARY
TRACT SINCE MAY 3, 1975. THIS PROBLEM AFFLICTS MEN ABOVE THE AGE
OF 60. DR. ASRAT REITERATED THAT THE KING HAS BEEN OBTAINING THE
NECESSARY TREATMENT FOR THIS CONDITION. PHYSICIANS HAVE BEEN
TREATING THE FORMER KING TWICE DAILY (INCLUDING NIGHTS) AND THE
PMAC HAS PERMITTED PROFESSORS LEITHHEAD OF PRINCESS TSEHAI
HOSPITAL AND URINEV (PHONETIC) OF PRINCESS MAKONNEN HOSPITAL
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TO ASSIST DR. ASRAT AT THE LATTER'S REQUEST. THESE PHYSICIANS

HAVE MEDICALLY EXAMINED THE FORMER KING AND HAVE SUBMITTED THE RESULTS OF THEIR FINDINGS TO PMAC ON MAY 13.

A) THESE PHYSICIANS FIND THAT THE FORMER KING'S GENERAL HEALTH IS GOOD. THEY HAVE BEEN AGREED ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE EX-KING'S CONDITION FROM THE TIME THEY WERE CONSULTED. THEY ARE ALSO AGREED ON THE DIAGNOSIS OF THE FORMER KING'S PRESENT CONDITION.

C) THEY DECIDED THAT THE CURRENT TREATMENT SHOULD CONTINUE UNTIL MAY 17. THE PHYSICIANS AGREED THAT IF THERE SHOULD BE NO IMPROVEMENT IN THE FORMER KING'S CONDITION THEREAFTER, THEY WOULD RECOMMEND IN FAVOR OF SURGERY. THE DOCTORS' REPORT TO PMAC ALSO INCLUDED A RECOMMENDATION OF THE KIND OF OPERATION THAT MIGHT PROVE NECESSARY.

D) DR. ASRAT ADDED THAT SINCE THERE HAS BEEN NO IMPROVEMENT IN THE CONDITION OF THE FORMER KING, THE TEAM OF PHYSICIANS HAVE NOW TOLD PMAC THAT THE EMPEROR SHOULD BE OPERATED.

2. EMBASSY'S COMMENTS TO FOLLOW IN SEPTTEL.

DECON ON RECEIPT.
HUMMEL

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